AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) Microspheres for allergy therapy containing antigens and/or DNA of antigens, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the microspheres have a binding constant K_B of at least 1 x 10^4 M^{-1} toward the specific carbohydrate residue of intestinal and/or nasal epithelial cells.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~M~~ microspheres for allergy therapy according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the microspheres have an avidity K_B of at least 1 x 10^{10} M^{-1} toward the specific carbohydrate residue of intestinal and/or nasal epithelial cells.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~M~~ microspheres for allergy therapy according to claim 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the microspheres have substances on their surface which increase the adhesion to mucosal cells.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~M~~ microspheres for allergy therapy according to any of the above claims, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the specific carbohydrate residue is alpha-L-fucose.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~M~~ microspheres for allergy therapy according to any of the above claims, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the substances on the microsphere surface are lectins.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~M~~ microspheres for allergy therapy according to claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the substance on the microsphere surface is a nontoxic lectin.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~M~~ microspheres for allergy therapy according to claim 5 or 6, characterized in that lectin is edible.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~M~~ microspheres for allergy therapy according to claims 5-7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the lectin is Aleuria aurantia lectin.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~M~~ microspheres for allergy therapy according to any of the above claims, characterized in that the microspheres have a diameter of from 0.1 to 100 μm.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~M~~microspheres for allergy therapy according to any of the above claims, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the skeleton of the microspheres consists of polymers.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~M~~microspheres for allergy therapy according to claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the skeleton of the microspheres consists of polymers with functional groups.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~M~~microspheres for allergy therapy according to either of claims 10 and 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the skeleton of the microspheres consists of biodegradable polymers or copolymers.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~M~~microspheres for allergy therapy according to any of claims 9-12, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the skeleton of the microspheres consists of polylactic acid, polyglycolic acid or of poly(lactic-co-glycolic acid) copolymer.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~M~~microspheres for allergy therapy according to any of claims 10 to 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the Aleuria aurantia lectin is bound to the polymers by a covalent bond.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~M~~microspheres for allergy therapy according to any of the above claims, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the microspheres contain 0.1-20 wt.% of antigens and/or DNA of antigens.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~M~~microspheres for allergy therapy according to any of the above claims, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the antigens and/or DNA of antigens are allergens and/or DNA of allergens.

17. (Currently Amended, Withdrawn) The ~~M~~microspheres for allergy therapy according to any of the above claims, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the antigens are mimotopes of the allergen Phl p 5 and/or of the allergen Bet v 1.

18. (Currently Amended, Withdrawn) A method for producing microspheres according to any of the above claims, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the microspheres are first loaded with antigens and/or DNA of antigens, and the microspheres are then functionalized.

19. (Currently Amended, Withdrawn) ~~Use of~~ A method comprising administering the microspheres according to any of the above claims 1-17 to a subject for allergy therapy.